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DE RUEHKT #0135 0131008  
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O 131008Z JAN 06  
FM AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9886  
INFO RUEHLM/AMEMBASSY COLOMBO IMMEDIATE 4061  
RUEHKA/AMEMBASSY DHAKA IMMEDIATE 9112  
RUEHIL/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE 2036  
RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE 9023  
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE 3493  
RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING IMMEDIATE 3820  
RUEHUL/AMEMBASSY SEOUL IMMEDIATE 0768  
RUCNFB/FBI WASHDC IMMEDIATE  
RHHMUNA/CDR USPACOM HONOLULU HI IMMEDIATE  
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC IMMEDIATE  
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T KATHMANDU 000135

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DEPT FOR SA/INS, DS, DS/SP/SA, DS/IP/ITA, S/CT, DS/CC  
NEW DELHI FOR FBI LEGATT

E.O. 12958: DECL: 01/13/2016

TAGS: PTER ASEC PGOV CASC NP

SUBJECT: CONTACTS RELATING TO KIDNAPPED SDU SHIFT LEADER

REF: A. KATHMANDU 120

¶B. KATHMANDU 108

Classified By: Classified by James F. Moriarty; Reasons 1.4 (b/d).

Maoists Promise "Positive Result" Within Two Days

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¶11. (S/NF) On January 12, at the recommendation of Post's EAC (ref A), Emboff contacted a political party member known to have contacts with the Maoists, Hridayesh Tripathi, and asked that he convey to the Maoists that the USG would not tolerate threats and/or attacks against its employees and would hold the Maoist leadership responsible if our employees or interests are harmed. On January 13, Tripathi told Emboff that the Maoists had assured him that it was not/not central policy to harm U.S. interests and they were taking the report very seriously. They reportedly said the detention could have been a misunderstanding and also cited discipline problems among their cadre. Tripathi stated that the Maoists had explained that because of their communications problems, it might take one or two days to relay the message to the district and local levels, but that the problem would be solved soon. Tripathi stressed that there would be a "positive result" within two days.

Wife Intends to Pay Ransom Demand

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¶12. (C) On January 13, Emboffs met with Uma Gurung, the wife of the kidnapped Surveillance Detection (SD) shift leader, who reiterated her desire that the US Mission not get involved and stated she intended to pay the ransom to secure her husband's release. Per the EAC's recommendation (ref A), Emboffs provided her with contact information for the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (UN OHCHR) the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) and other Nepalese human rights NGOs, and urged her to contact these organizations. She said the last contact she had was from the "friend" from the village (ref B) on January 11 demanding the ransom.

¶13. (C) Gurung was visibly terrified during the meeting and declined to contact any human rights organization, stating

that, to protect her husband, she intended to follow the instructions given to her. She explained that she was working to collect as much of the one million Nepali rupees (\$13,700 USD) demanded by the Maoists as possible, noting that she could probably collect two to three hundred thousand. She indicated that she would leave for her husband's village o/a January 16 if she had not heard from the Maoists by then. She would first travel by plane and then walk for two days to reach the village. She stated she would enroll her thirteen-year-old son in a boarding school before she traveled to the village, noting that she had told none of her friends or neighbors about the Maoist's demands. She promised to inform the Embassy if she had any contact with the Maoists in the meantime, and would also notify us before she departed for Bhojpur District. The SD coordinator will continue to contact her daily.

MORIARTY